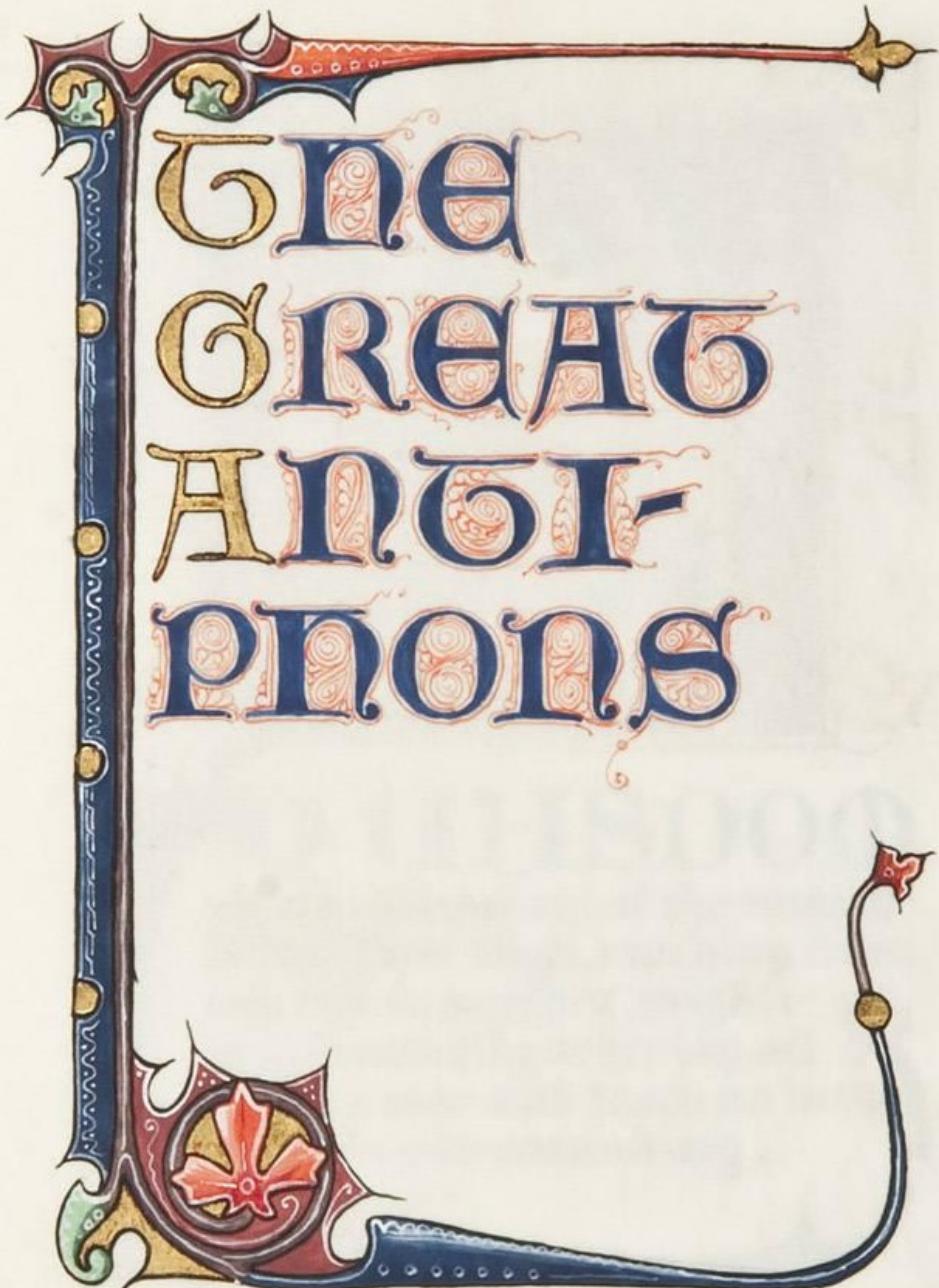


THE  
GREAT  
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PHONS



# O Antiphons 2023

## What is an antiphon?

An antiphon is a short, variable text read before and after a longer, set text during Christian prayers. Hebrew psalms and other set songs (canticles) from both the Old Testament and New Testament form the core of daily Christian prayer. Antiphons elaborate the seasonal changes of the liturgical year and enliven the monotony in a cycle of repeated canticles and psalms in daily, weekly, and monthly recitation.

The most beloved antiphons in English-speaking Christianity are the eight O Antiphons of Advent used before and after the Magnificat or Song of Mary (Luke 1:46-55) during Evening Prayer beginning on December 16. The verses are best known as adapted in the now-traditional 1851 hymn translated by John Mason Neale, *O come, O come, Emmanuel*. Neale's translation works from a Latin poem of the O Antiphons written in Germany by 1710. The use of the O Antiphons themselves during Advent vespers may date to the sixth century.

This compilation of simple Evening Prayer orders uses the following sequence based on medieval English custom using the traditional language texts of the 1979 Book of Common Prayer of the Episcopal Church:

- 16 December: O Sapientia (O Wisdom)
- 17 December: O Adonai
- 18 December: O Radix Jesse (O Root of Jesse)
- 19 December: O Clavis David (O Key of David)
- 20 December: O Oriens (O Dawn of the East)
- 21 December: O Rex gentium (O King of the Nations)
- 22 December: O Emmanuel
- 23 December: O Virgo virginum (O Virgin of virgins)

*Illuminated images where available are from an undated, illuminated manuscript on vellum by Edith Ibbs, sold by PBA Galleries in 2011. O Radix Jesse is from the Scherenberg-Psalter (c. 1250). O Virgo virginum is an icon of the Theotokos from the Kiev Caves Monastery.*

## **Further Reading**

There is a rich tradition of meditating and reflecting on the O Antiphons. Much of this reflection has taken the form of musical compositions, and a search of iTunes or Amazon.com for downloadable sung versions of the Antiphons returns more results each year. The following English-language books focus on devotional aspects of Advent in general and the O Antiphons in particular. Although they are all out of print, used book websites such as abebooks.com and alibris.com and eBay.com make it easy and affordable to find copies of most of them.

The Advent Antiphons with Scripture References and Paraphrases.

By Arthur Crashaw Alliston Hall, Bishop of Vermont.

Milwaukee: The Young Churchman; London: A.R. Mowbray, undated but 1914.

The Great O Antiphons of Advent:

English translations by Arthur Carl Piepkorn

Musical settings by Healey Willan.

St. Louis, Missouri: Concordia Publishing House, 1958.

The Far-Spent Night.

By Edward Nason West.

Greenwich, Connecticut: The Seabury Press, 1960.

Meditations on the O Antiphons

A Sister of St. Benedict.

St. Joseph, Minnesota: Sisters of St. Benedict, 1964, seven volumes.

O Come Emmanuel: Scripture Verses for Advent Worship.

By William J. Marshall.

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania: Morehouse Publishing, 1994.

Seven Bells to Bethlehem: The O Antiphons of Advent.

By Oliver Treanor.

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania: Morehouse Publishing, 1995.

Hasten the Kingdom: Praying the O Antiphons of Advent.

By Sister Mary Winifred, Community of the Ascension.

Collegeville, Minnesota: Liturgical Press, 1996.

The O Antiphons: Reclaiming the Tradition for Our Youth

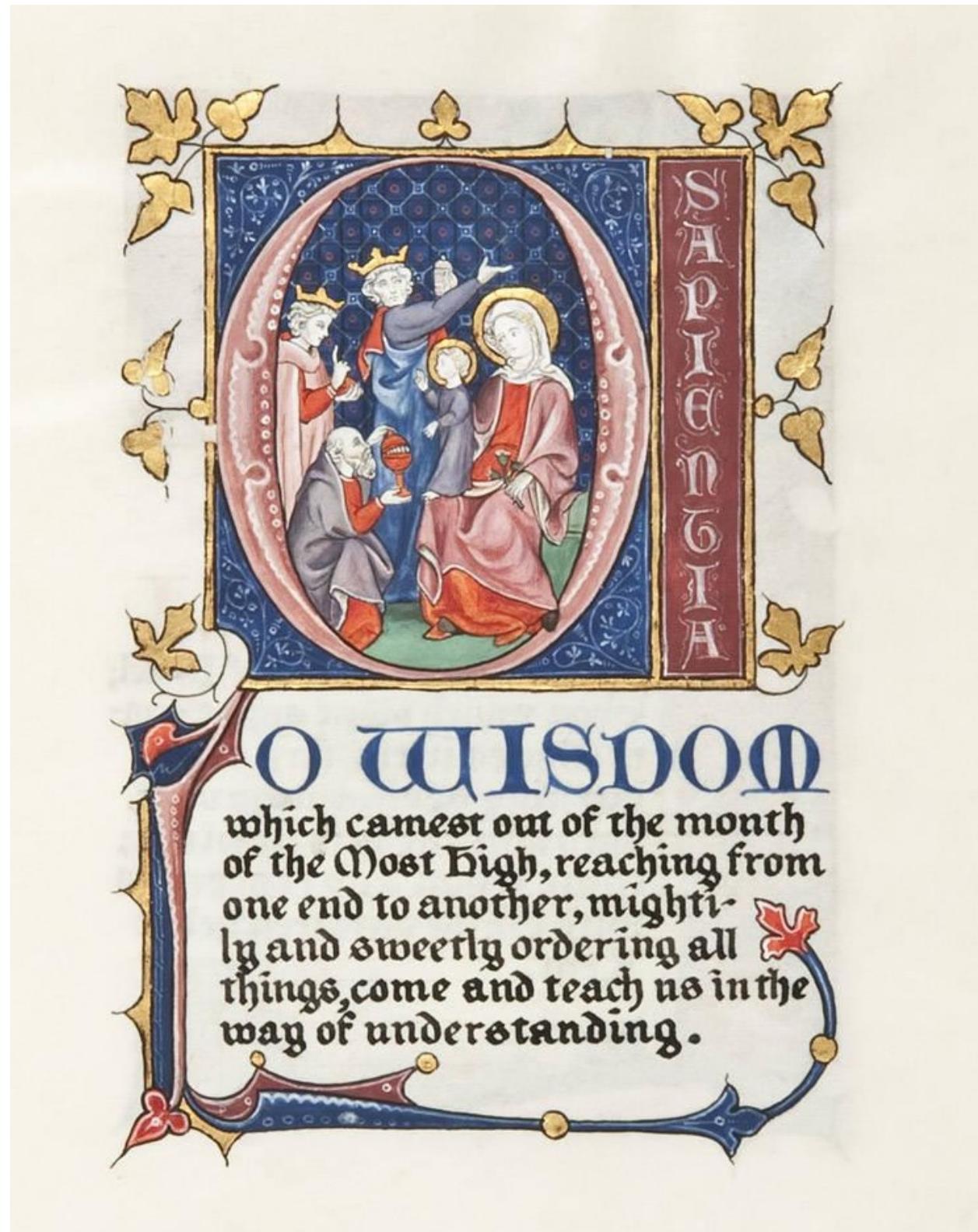
By Dorothy Levadosky.

Edmonton: Newman Theological College, 1998.

No Trace of Christmas? Discovering Advent in the Old Testament.

By Christoph Dohmen, translated by Linda M. Maloney.

Collegeville, Minnesota: Liturgical Press, 2000.



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# O WISDOM

which camest out of the mouth  
of the Most High, reaching from  
one end to another, mighty-  
ly and sweetly ordering all  
things, come and teach us in the  
way of understanding.

# O Sapientia

Evening Prayer  
December 16, 2023  
Saturday after the Second Sunday of Advent

*Officiant* O God, make speed to save us.

*People*    **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Alleluia.

**O Gracious Light**

**O gracious Light, pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven, O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!**

**Now as we come to the setting of the sun, and our eyes behold the vesper light, we sing thy praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

**Thou art worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices, O Son of God, O Giver of life, and to be glorified through all the worlds.**

**Psalm 82**

God standeth in the congregation of princes \*

he is a Judge among gods.

How long will ye give wrong judgement \*

and accept the persons of the ungodly?

Defend the poor and fatherless \*

see that such as are in need and necessity have right.

Deliver the out-cast and poor \*

save them from the hand of the ungodly.

They will not be learned nor understand, but walk on still in darkness \*

all the foundations of the earth are out of course.

I have said, Ye are gods \*

and ye are all the children of the most Highest.

But ye shall die like men \*

and fall like one of the princes.

Arise, O God, and judge thou the earth \*

for thou shalt take all heathen to thine inheritance.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

**Psalm 83**

Hold not thy tongue, O God, keep not still silence \*  
refrain not thyself, O God.  
For lo, thine enemies make a murmuring \*  
and they that hate thee have lift up their head.  
They have imagined craftily against thy people \*  
and taken counsel against thy secret ones.  
They have said, Come, and let us root them out, that they be no more a people \*  
and that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance.  
For they have cast their heads together with one consent \*  
and are confederate against thee;  
The tabernacles of the Edomites, and the Ismaelites \*  
the Moabites, and Hagarens;  
Gebal, and Ammon, and Amalek \*  
the Philistines, with them that dwell at Tyre.  
Assur also is joined with them \*  
and have holpen the children of Lot.  
But do thou to them as unto the Midianites \*  
unto Sisera, and unto Jabin at the brook of Kison;  
Who perished at Endor \*  
and became as the dung of the earth.  
Make them and their princes like Oreb and Zeb \*  
yea, make all their princes like as Zeba and Salmana;  
Who say, Let us take to ourselves \*  
the houses of God in possession.  
O my God, make them like unto a wheel \*  
and as the stubble before the wind;  
Like as the fire that burneth up the wood \*  
and as the flame that consumeth the mountains.  
Persecute them even so with thy tempest \*  
and make them afraid with thy storm.  
Make their faces ashamed, O Lord \*  
that they may seek thy Name.  
Let them be confounded and vexed ever more and more \*  
let them be put to shame, and perish.  
And they shall know that thou, whose Name is Jehovah \*  
art only the most Highest over all the earth.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

#### **Psalm 84**

O how amiable are thy dwellings \*  
thou Lord of hosts!  
My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord \*  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.  
Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young \*  
even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

Blessed are they that dwell in thy house \*  
they will be alway praising thee.  
Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee \*  
in whose heart are thy ways.  
Who going through the vale of misery use it for a well \*  
and the pools are filled with water.  
They will go from strength to strength \*  
and unto the God of gods appeareth every one of them in Sion.  
O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer \*  
hearken, O God of Jacob.  
Behold, O God our defender \*  
and look upon the face of thine Anointed.  
For one day in thy courts \*  
is better than a thousand.  
I had rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God \*  
than to dwell in the tents of ungodliness.  
For the Lord God is a light and defence \*  
the Lord will give grace and worship, and no good thing shall he withhold from them that live a godly life.  
O Lord God of hosts \*  
blessed is the man that putteth his trust in thee.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

### **Psalm 85**

Lord, thou art become gracious unto thy land \*  
thou hast turned away the captivity of Jacob.  
Thou hast forgiven the offence of thy people \*  
and covered all their sins.  
Thou hast taken away all thy displeasure \*  
and turned thyself from thy wrathful indignation.  
Turn us then, O God our Saviour \*  
and let thine anger cease from us.  
Wilt thou be displeased at us for ever \*  
and wilt thou stretch out thy wrath from one generation to another?  
Wilt thou not turn again, and quicken us \*  
that thy people may rejoice in thee?  
Shew us thy mercy, O Lord \*  
and grant us thy salvation.  
I will hearken what the Lord God will say concerning me \*  
for he shall speak peace unto his people, and to his saints, that they turn not again.  
For his salvation is nigh them that fear him \*  
that glory may dwell in our land.  
Mercy and truth are met together \*  
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Truth shall flourish out of the earth \*  
and righteousness hath looked down from heaven.  
Yea, the Lord shall shew loving-kindness \*  
and our land shall give her increase.  
Righteousness shall go before him \*  
and he shall direct his going in the way.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## The Lessons

### The First Lesson

**Isa. 8:1-15**

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

Then the Lord said to me, “Take a large tablet and write upon it in common characters, ‘Belonging to Maher-shalal-hashbaz.’” And I got reliable witnesses, Uriah the priest and Zechariah the son of Jeberechiah, to attest for me. And I went to the prophetess, and she conceived and bore a son. Then the Lord said to me, “Call his name Maher-shalal-hashbaz; for before the child knows how to cry ‘My father’ or ‘My mother,’ the wealth of Damascus and the spoil of Samaria will be carried away before the king of Assyria.”

The Lord spoke to me again: “Because this people have refused the waters of Shiloah that flow gently, and melt in fear before Rezin and the son of Remaliah; therefore, behold, the Lord is bringing up against them the waters of the River, mighty and many, the king of Assyria and all his glory; and it will rise over all its channels and go over all its banks; and it will sweep on into Judah, it will overflow and pass on, reaching even to the neck; and its outspread wings will fill the breadth of your land, O Imman’u-el.”

Be broken, you peoples, and be dismayed; give ear, all you far countries; gird yourselves and be dismayed; gird yourselves and be dismayed. Take counsel together, but it will come to nought; speak a word, but it will not stand, for God is with us.

For the Lord spoke thus to me with his strong hand upon me, and warned me not to walk in the way of this people, saying: “Do not call conspiracy all that this people call conspiracy, and do not fear what they fear, nor be in dread. But the Lord of hosts, him you shall regard as holy; let him be your fear, and let him be your dread. And he will become a sanctuary, and a stone of offense, and a rock of stumbling to both houses of Israel, a trap and a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. And many shall stumble thereon; they shall fall and be broken; they shall be snared and taken.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**O WISDOM, which camest out of the mouth of the Most High, and reachest from one end to another, mightily and sweetly ordering all things: Come and teach us the way of prudence.**

## The Song of Mary

*Luke 1:46-55*

My soul doth magnify the Lord,\*  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.  
For he hath regarded \*  
the lowliness of his handmaiden.  
For behold from henceforth \*  
all generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is mighty hath magnified me,\*  
and holy is his Name.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him \*  
throughout all generations.  
He hath showed strength with his arm; \*  
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He hath put down the mighty from their seat,\*  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.  
He hath filled the hungry with good things,\*  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.  
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel,\*  
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**O WISDOM, which camest out of the mouth of the Most High, and reachest from one end to another, mightily and sweetly ordering all things: Come and teach us the way of prudence.**

## The Second Lesson

**Revelation 3:1-6**

A Reading from the Book of Revelation.

“And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: ‘The words of him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars.

“I know your works; you have the name of being alive, and you are dead. Awake, and strengthen what remains and is on the point of death, for I have not found your works perfect in the sight of my God. Remember then what you received and heard; keep that, and repent. If you will not awake, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come upon you. Yet you have still a few names in Sardis, people who have not soiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white, for they are worthy. He who conquers shall be clad thus in white garments, and I will not blot his name out of the book of life; I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.’

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

### The Song of Simeon

*Luke 2:29-32*

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, \*  
according to thy word;  
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, \*  
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, \*  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

### The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

### The Prayers

*Officiant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*        **And with thy spirit.**  
*Officiant*      Let us pray.

### The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
    as we forgive those  
        who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
    but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
    and the power, and the glory,  
        for ever and ever. Amen.

### Suffrages

V. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;  
R. **And grant us thy salvation.**  
V. Endue thy ministers with righteousness;  
R. **And make thy chosen people joyful.**  
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
R. **For only in thee can we live in safety.**  
V. Lord, keep this nation under thy care;  
R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**  
V. Let thy way be known upon earth;  
R. **Thy saving health among all nations.**  
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**  
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
R. **And sustain us with thy Holy Spirit.**

### The Collect of the Day

Merciful God, who sent thy messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### A Collect for Peace

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of all enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

### A Collect for Aid against Perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## The General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we thine unworthy servants  
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks  
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all men.  
We bless thee for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for thine inestimable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we beseech thee,  
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,  
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;  
and that we show forth thy praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to thy service,  
and by walking before thee  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,  
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

## A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee; and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

*2 Corinthians 13:14*



O ADONAI  
Captain of the house of Israel;  
Thou which didst appear unto Moses in the fire of the  
burning bush, and gavest unto him the law in Sinai;  
come Thou and redeem us  
with Thine outstretched Arm.

# O Adonai

**Evening Prayer  
December 17, 2023  
The Third Sunday of Advent**

*Officiant* O God, make speed to save us.

*People*   **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.  
Alleluia.

## **O Gracious Light**

**O gracious Light, pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven, O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!**

**Now as we come to the setting of the sun, and our eyes behold the vesper light, we sing thy praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

**Thou art worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices, O Son of God, O Giver of life, and to be glorified through all the worlds.**

## **Psalm 89: Part I**

My song shall be alway of the loving kindness of the Lord \*

    with my mouth will I ever be shewing thy truth from one generation to another.

For I have said, Mercy shall be set up for ever \*

    thy truth shalt thou stablish in the heavens.

I have made a covenant with my chosen \*

    I have sworn unto David my servant;

Thy seed will I stablish for ever \*

    and set up thy throne from one generation to another.

O Lord, the very heavens shall praise thy wondrous works \*

    and thy truth in the congregation of the saints.

For who is he among the clouds \*

    that shall be compared unto the Lord?

And what is he among the gods \*

    that shall be like unto the Lord?

God is very greatly to be feared in the council of the saints \*

    and to be had in reverence of all them that are round about him.

O Lord God of hosts, who is like unto thee \*

    thy truth, most mighty Lord, is on every side.

Thou rulest the raging of the sea \*

    thou stillest the waves thereof when they arise.

Thou hast subdued Egypt, and destroyed it \*  
    thou hast scattered thine enemies abroad with thy mighty arm.  
The heavens are thine, the earth also is thine \*  
    thou hast laid the foundation of the round world, and all that therein is.  
Thou hast made the north and the south \*  
    Tabor and Hermon shall rejoice in thy Name.  
Thou hast a mighty arm \*  
    strong is thy hand, and high is thy right hand.  
Righteousness and equity are the habitation of thy seat \*  
    mercy and truth shall go before thy face.  
Blessed is the people, O Lord, that can rejoice in thee \*  
    they shall walk in the light of thy countenance.  
Their delight shall be daily in thy Name \*  
    and in thy righteousness shall they make their boast.  
For thou art the glory of their strength \*  
    and in thy loving-kindness thou shalt lift up our horns.  
For the Lord is our defence \*  
    the Holy One of Israel is our King.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

### **Psalm 89: Part II**

Thou spakest sometime in visions unto thy saints, and saidst \*  
    I have laid help upon one that is mighty; I have exalted one chosen out of the people.  
I have found David my servant \*  
    with my holy oil have I anointed him.  
My hand shall hold him fast \*  
    and my arm shall strengthen him.  
The enemy shall not be able to do him violence \*  
    the son of wickedness shall not hurt him.  
I will smite down his foes before his face \*  
    and plague them that hate him.  
My truth also and my mercy shall be with him \*  
    and in my Name shall his horn be exalted.  
I will set his dominion also in the sea \*  
    and his right hand in the floods.  
He shall call me, Thou art my Father \*  
    my God, and my strong salvation.  
And I will make him my first-born \*  
    higher than the kings of the earth.  
My mercy will I keep for him for evermore \*  
    and my covenant shall stand fast with him.  
His seed also will I make to endure for ever \*  
    and his throne as the days of heaven.  
But if his children forsake my law \*  
    and walk not in my judgements;

If they break my statutes, and keep not my commandments \*  
I will visit their offences with the rod, and their sin with scourges.  
Nevertheless, my loving-kindness will I not utterly take from him \*  
nor suffer my truth to fail.

My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips \*  
I have sworn once by my holiness, that I will not fail David.  
His seed shall endure for ever \*  
and his seat is like as the sun before me.  
He shall stand fast for evermore as the moon \*  
and as the faithful witness in heaven.  
But thou hast abhorred and forsaken thine Anointed \*  
and art displeased at him.  
Thou hast broken the covenant of thy servant \*  
and cast his crown to the ground.  
Thou hast overthrown all his hedges \*  
and broken down his strong holds.  
All they that go by spoil him \*  
and he is become a reproach to his neighbours.  
Thou hast set up the right hand of his enemies \*  
and made all his adversaries to rejoice.  
Thou hast taken away the edge of his sword \*  
and givest him not victory in the battle.  
Thou hast put out his glory \*  
and cast his throne down to the ground.  
The days of his youth hast thou shortened \*  
and covered him with dishonour.  
Lord, how long wilt thou hide thyself, for ever \*  
and shall thy wrath burn like fire?  
O remember how short my time is \*  
wherefore hast thou made all men for nought?  
What man is he that liveth, and shall not see death \*  
and shall he deliver his soul from the hand of hell?  
Lord, where are thy old loving-kindnesses \*  
which thou swarest unto David in thy truth?  
Remember, Lord, the rebuke that thy servants have \*  
and how I do bear in my bosom the rebukes of many people;  
Wherewith thine enemies have blasphemed thee, and slandered the footsteps of thine Anointed \*  
Praised be the Lord for evermore. Amen, and Amen.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## The Lessons

### The First Lesson

Isa. 13:6-13

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

Wail, for the day of the Lord is near; as destruction from the Almighty it will come! Therefore all hands will be feeble, and every man's heart will melt, and they will be dismayed. Pangs and agony will seize them; they will be in anguish like a woman in travail. They will look aghast at one another; their faces will be aflame.

Behold, the day of the Lord comes, cruel, with wrath and fierce anger, to make the earth a desolation and to destroy its sinners from it. For the stars of the heavens and their constellations will not give their light; the sun will be dark at its rising and the moon will not shed its light. I will punish the world for its evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; I will put an end to the pride of the arrogant, and lay low the haughtiness of the ruthless. I will make men more rare than fine gold, and mankind than the gold of Ophir. Therefore I will make the heavens tremble, and the earth will be shaken out of its place, at the wrath of the Lord of hosts in the day of his fierce anger.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**O ADONAI, and Leader of the house of Israel, who appearedst in the Bush to Moses in a flame of fire, and gavest him the Law in Sinai: Come and redeem us with an outstretched arm.**

**The Song of Mary**

*Luke 1:46-55*

My soul doth magnify the Lord, \*  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.  
For he hath regarded \*  
the lowliness of his handmaiden.  
For behold from henceforth \*  
all generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, \*  
and holy is his Name.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him \*  
throughout all generations.  
He hath showed strength with his arm; \*  
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, \*  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.  
He hath filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.  
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, \*  
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**O ADONAI, and Leader of the house of Israel, who appearedst in the Bush to Moses in a flame of fire, and gavest him the Law in Sinai: Come and redeem us with an outstretched arm.**

**The Second Lesson**

**2 Thess. 2:1-3,13-17**

A Reading from the Second Letter to the Thessalonians.

Now concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our assembling to meet him, we beg you, brethren, not to be quickly shaken in mind or excited, either by spirit or by word, or by letter purporting to be from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come. Let no one deceive you in any way; for that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of perdition,

But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God chose you from the beginning to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brethren, stand firm and hold to the traditions which you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by letter.

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**The Song of Simeon**

**Luke 2:29-32**

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, \*  
according to thy word;  
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, \*  
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, \*  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, dead, and buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

### The Prayers

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And with thy spirit.

*Officiant* Let us pray.

### The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
    hallowed be thy Name,  
    thy kingdom come,  
    thy will be done,  
    on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
    as we forgive those  
    who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
    but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
    and the power, and the glory,  
    for ever and ever. Amen.

### Suffrages

V. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;  
R. **And grant us thy salvation.**  
V. Endue thy ministers with righteousness;  
R. **And make thy chosen people joyful.**  
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
R. **For only in thee can we live in safety.**  
V. Lord, keep this nation under thy care;  
R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**  
V. Let thy way be known upon earth;  
R. **Thy saving health among all nations.**

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**  
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
R. **And sustain us with thy Holy Spirit.**

### The Collect of the Day

Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

### A Collect for Peace

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of all enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

### A Collect for Aid against Perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### The General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we thine unworthy servants  
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks  
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all men.  
We bless thee for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for thine inestimable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we beseech thee,  
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,  
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;  
and that we show forth thy praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to thy service,  
and by walking before thee  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,  
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee; and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Ephesians 3:20,21*



# O Radix Jesse

Evening Prayer  
December 18, 2023  
**Monday after the Third Sunday of Advent**

*Officiant* O God, make speed to save us.

*People*   **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.  
Alleluia.

## **O Gracious Light**

**O gracious Light, pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven, O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!**

**Now as we come to the setting of the sun, and our eyes behold the vesper light, we sing thy praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

**Thou art worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices, O Son of God, O Giver of life, and to be glorified through all the worlds.**

## **Psalm 93**

The Lord is King, and hath put on glorious apparel \*  
the Lord hath put on his apparel, and girded himself with strength.

He hath made the round world so sure \*  
that it cannot be moved.

Ever since the world began hath thy seat been prepared \*  
thou art from everlasting.

The floods are risen, O Lord, the floods have lift up their voice \*  
the floods lift up their waves.

The waves of the sea are mighty, and rage horribly \*  
but yet the Lord, who dwelleth on high, is mightier.

Thy testimonies, O Lord, are very sure \*  
holiness becometh thine house for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## **Psalm 94**

O Lord God, to whom vengeance belongeth \*  
thou God, to whom vengeance belongeth, shew thyself.  
Arise, thou Judge of the world \*  
and reward the proud after their deserving.  
Lord, how long shall the ungodly \*  
how long shall the ungodly triumph?  
How long shall all wicked doers speak so disdainfully \*  
and make such proud boasting?  
They smite down thy people, O Lord \*  
and trouble thine heritage.  
They murder the widow, and the stranger \*  
and put the fatherless to death.  
And yet they say, Tush, the Lord shall not see \*  
neither shall the God of Jacob regard it.  
Take heed, ye unwise among the people \*  
O ye fools, when will ye understand?  
He that planted the ear, shall he not hear \*  
or he that made the eye, shall he not see?  
Or he that nurtureth the heathen \*  
it is he that teacheth man knowledge, shall not he punish?  
The Lord knoweth the thoughts of man \*  
that they are but vain.  
Blessed is the man whom thou chastenest, O Lord \*  
and teachest him in thy law;  
That thou mayest give him patience in time of adversity \*  
until the pit be digged up for the ungodly.  
For the Lord will not fail his people \*  
neither will he forsake his inheritance;  
Until righteousness turn again unto judgement \*  
all such as are true in heart shall follow it.  
Who will rise up with me against the wicked \*  
or who will take my part against the evil-doers?  
If the Lord had not helped me \*  
it had not failed but my soul had been put to silence.  
But when I said, My foot hath slipt \*  
thy mercy, O Lord, held me up.  
In the multitude of the sorrows that I had in my heart \*  
thy comforts have refreshed my soul.  
Wilt thou have any thing to do with the stool of wickedness \*  
which imagineth mischief as a law?  
They gather them together against the soul of the righteous \*  
and condemn the innocent blood.  
But the Lord is my refuge \*  
and my God is the strength of my confidence.  
He shall recompense them their wickedness, and destroy them in their own malice \*  
yea, the Lord our God shall destroy them.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## The Lessons

### The First Lesson

**Isa. 8:16-9:1**

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

Bind up the testimony, seal the teaching among my disciples. I will wait for the Lord, who is hiding his face from the house of Jacob, and I will hope in him. Behold, I and the children whom the Lord has given me are signs and portents in Israel from the Lord of hosts, who dwells on Mount Zion. And when they say to you, "Consult the mediums and the wizards who chirp and mutter," should not a people consult their God? Should they consult the dead on behalf of the living? To the teaching and to the testimony! Surely for this word which they speak there is no dawn. They will pass through the land, greatly distressed and hungry; and when they are hungry, they will be enraged and will curse their king and their God, and turn their faces upward; and they will look to the earth, but behold, distress and darkness, the gloom of anguish; and they will be thrust into thick darkness.

But there will be no gloom for her that was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zeb'ulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**O ROOT of Jesse, which standest for an ensign of the people, at whom kings shall shut their mouths, to whom the Gentiles shall seek: Come and deliver us, and tarry not.**

### The Song of Mary

*Luke 1:46-55*

My soul doth magnify the Lord, \*  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.  
For he hath regarded \*  
the lowliness of his handmaiden.  
For behold from henceforth \*  
all generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, \*  
and holy is his Name.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him \*  
throughout all generations.  
He hath showed strength with his arm; \*  
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, \*  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.  
He hath filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, \*  
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## O ROOT of Jesse, which standest for an ensign of the people, at whom kings shall shut their mouths, to whom the Gentiles shall seek: Come and deliver us, and tarry not.

### The Second Lesson

**Revelation 3:7-13**

A Reading from the Book of Revelation.

"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: 'The words of the holy one, the true one, who has the key of David, who opens and no one shall shut, who shuts and no one opens.

"I know your works. Behold, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut; I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. Behold, I will make those of the synagogue of Satan who say that they are Jews and are not, but lie—behold, I will make them come and bow down before your feet, and learn that I have loved you. Because you have kept my word of patient endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial which is coming on the whole world, to try those who dwell upon the earth. I am coming soon; hold fast what you have, so that no one may seize your crown. He who conquers, I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God; never shall he go out of it, and I will write on him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem which comes down from my God out of heaven, and my own new name. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### The Song of Simeon

**Luke 2:29-32**

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, \*  
according to thy word;  
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, \*  
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, \*  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

### The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;  
    who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
    born of the Virgin Mary,  
    suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
    was crucified, dead, and buried.  
    He descended into hell.  
    The third day he rose again from the dead.  
    He ascended into heaven,  
    and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
    From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost,  
    the holy catholic Church,  
    the communion of saints,  
    the forgiveness of sins,  
    the resurrection of the body,  
    and the life everlasting. Amen.

### The Prayers

*Officiant*            The Lord be with you.  
*People*              **And with thy spirit.**  
*Officiant*            Let us pray.

### The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
    hallowed be thy Name,  
    thy kingdom come,  
    thy will be done,  
    on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
    as we forgive those  
    who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
    but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
    and the power, and the glory,  
    for ever and ever. Amen.

### Suffrages

*V.*     O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;  
*R.*     **And grant us thy salvation.**  
*V.*     Endue thy ministers with righteousness;  
*R.*     **And make thy chosen people joyful.**  
*V.*     Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
*R.*     **For only in thee can we live in safety.**

*V.* Lord, keep this nation under thy care;  
*R.* **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**  
*V.* Let thy way be known upon earth;  
*R.* **Thy saving health among all nations.**  
*V.* Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
*R.* **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**  
*V.* Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
*R.* **And sustain us with thy Holy Spirit.**

### The Collect of the Day

Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

### A Collect for Peace

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of all enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

### A Collect for Aid against Perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### The General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we thine unworthy servants  
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks  
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all men.  
We bless thee for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for thine inestimable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we beseech thee,  
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,  
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;  
and that we show forth thy praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to thy service,  
and by walking before thee

in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,  
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

#### A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee; and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

*Romans 15:13*

O E S LA  
VIS

O KEY  
of David, Sceptre of the  
House of Israel; which  
openest and no man  
shuttest, which shuttest  
and no man openeth: come  
then, and bring from the  
prison-house him that is  
bound.

# O Clavis David

Evening Prayer

December 19, 2023

Tuesday after the Third Sunday of Advent

*Officiant*      O God, make speed to save us.

*People*        **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Alleluia.

## O Gracious Light

**O gracious Light, pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven, O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!**

**Now as we come to the setting of the sun, and our eyes behold the vesper light, we sing thy praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

**Thou art worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices, O Son of God, O Giver of life, and to be glorified through all the worlds.**

## Psalm 98

O sing unto the Lord a new song \*  
for he hath done marvellous things.

With his own right hand, and with his holy arm \*  
hath he gotten himself the victory.

The Lord declared his salvation \*  
his righteousness hath he openly shewed in the sight of the heathen.

He hath remembered his mercy and truth toward the house of Israel \*  
and all the ends of the world have seen the salvation of our God.

Shew yourselves joyful unto the Lord, all ye lands \*  
sing, rejoice, and give thanks.

Praise the Lord upon the harp \*  
sing to the harp with a psalm of thanksgiving.

With trumpets also, and shawms \*  
O shew yourselves joyful before the Lord the King.

Let the sea make a noise, and all that therein is \*

the round world, and they that dwell therein.

Let the floods clap their hands, and let the hills be joyful together before the Lord \*  
for he is come to judge the earth.

With righteousness shall he judge the world \*  
and the people with equity.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

### **Psalm 99**

The Lord is King, be the people never so impatient \*  
he sitteth between the cherubims, be the earth never so unquiet.  
The Lord is great in Sion \*  
and high above all people.  
They shall give thanks unto thy Name \*  
which is great, wonderful, and holy.  
The king's power loveth judgement; thou hast prepared equity \*  
thou hast executed judgement and righteousness in Jacob.  
O magnify the Lord our God \*  
and fall down before his footstool, for he is holy.  
Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among such as call upon his Name \*  
these called upon the Lord, and he heard them.  
He spake unto them out of the cloudy pillar \*  
for they kept his testimonies, and the law that he gave them.  
Thou heardest them, O Lord our God \*  
thou forgavest them, O God, and punishedst their own inventions.  
O magnify the Lord our God, and worship him upon his holy hill \*  
for the Lord our God is holy.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

### **Psalm 100**

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands \*  
serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song.  
Be ye sure that the Lord he is God \*  
it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.  
O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise \*  
be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name.  
For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting \*  
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

### **Psalm 101**

My song shall be of mercy and judgement \*  
unto thee, O Lord, will I sing.  
O let me have understanding \*  
in the way of godliness.  
When wilt thou come unto me \*  
I will walk in my house with a perfect heart.

I will take no wicked thing in hand; I hate the sins of unfaithfulness \*  
there shall no such cleave unto me.  
A froward heart shall depart from me \*  
I will not know a wicked person.  
Whoso privily slandereth his neighbour \*  
him will I destroy.  
Whoso hath also a proud look and high stomach \*  
I will not suffer him.  
Mine eyes look upon such as are faithful in the land \*  
that they may dwell with me.  
Whoso leadeth a godly life \*  
he shall be my servant.  
There shall no deceitful person dwell in my house \*  
he that telleth lies shall not tarry in my sight.  
I shall soon destroy all the ungodly that are in the land \*  
that I may root out all wicked doers from the city of the Lord.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## The Lessons

### The First Lesson

**Isa. 9:1-7**

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

But there will be no gloom for her that was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zeb'ulun and the land of Naph'tali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. Thou hast multiplied the nation, thou hast increased its joy; they rejoice before thee as with joy at the harvest, as men rejoice when they divide the spoil. For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, thou hast broken as on the day of Mid'ian. For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government will be upon his shoulder, and his name will be called "Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David, and over his kingdom, to establish it, and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**O KEY OF DAVID, and Scepter of the house of Israel; that openest and no man shutteth, and shuttest and no man**

**openeth: Come and bring the prisoners out of the prison-house, them that sit in darkness and the shadow of death.**

**The Song of Mary**

*Luke 1:46-55*

My soul doth magnify the Lord, \*  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.  
For he hath regarded \*  
the lowliness of his handmaiden.  
For behold from henceforth \*  
all generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, \*  
and holy is his Name.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him \*  
throughout all generations.  
He hath showed strength with his arm; \*  
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, \*  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.  
He hath filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.  
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, \*  
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**O KEY OF DAVID, and Scepter of the house of Israel; that openest and no man shutteth, and shuttest and no man openeth: Come and bring the prisoners out of the prison-house, them that sit in darkness and the shadow of death.**

**The Second Lesson**

**Revelation 3:14-22**

A Reading from the Book of Revelation.

“And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write: ‘The words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of God’s creation.

“I know your works: you are neither cold nor hot. Would that you were cold or hot! So, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew you out of my mouth. For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing; not knowing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked. Therefore I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, that you may be rich, and white garments to clothe you and to keep the shame of your nakedness from being seen, and

salve to anoint your eyes, that you may see. Those whom I love, I reprove and chasten; so be zealous and repent. Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any one hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me. He who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne, as I myself conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.””

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **The Song of Simeon**

*Luke 2:29-32*

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, \*  
according to thy word;  
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, \*  
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, \*  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

### **The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

### **The Prayers**

*Officiant*              The Lord be with you.  
*People*                **And with thy spirit.**  
*Officiant*              Let us pray.

## The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,**  
    **hallowed be thy Name,**  
    **thy kingdom come,**  
    **thy will be done,**  
    **on earth as it is in heaven.**  
**Give us this day our daily bread.**  
**And forgive us our trespasses,**  
    **as we forgive those**  
        **who trespass against us.**  
**And lead us not into temptation,**  
    **but deliver us from evil.**  
**For thine is the kingdom,**  
    **and the power, and the glory,**  
    **for ever and ever. Amen.**

## Suffrages

V. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;  
R. **And grant us thy salvation.**  
V. Endue thy ministers with righteousness;  
R. **And make thy chosen people joyful.**  
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
R. **For only in thee can we live in safety.**  
V. Lord, keep this nation under thy care;  
R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**  
V. Let thy way be known upon earth;  
R. **Thy saving health among all nations.**  
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**  
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
R. **And sustain us with thy Holy Spirit.**

## The Collect of the Day

Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end.  
**Amen.**

## A Collect for Peace

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of all enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

### A Collect for Aid against Perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### The General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we thine unworthy servants  
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks  
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all men.  
We bless thee for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for thine inestimable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we beseech thee,  
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,  
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;  
and that we show forth thy praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to thy service,  
and by walking before thee  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,  
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

### A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee; and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

*2 Corinthians 13:14*

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ans

GO  
DAYSpring

from on high, Brightness of  
Eternal Light, Sun of  
Righteousness; come Thou  
and shine in upon them  
that are sitting in dark-  
ness and in the shadow  
of death.

# O Oriens

**Evening Prayer**  
**December 20, 2023**  
**Wednesday after the Third Sunday of Advent**  
*Ember Day*

*Officiant*      O God, make speed to save us.

*People*      **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Alleluia.

## O Gracious Light

**O gracious Light, pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven, O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!**

**Now as we come to the setting of the sun, and our eyes behold the vesper light, we sing thy praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

**Thou art worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices, O Son of God, O Giver of life, and to be glorified through all the worlds.**

## Psalm 104

Praise the Lord, O my soul \*

    O Lord my God, thou art become exceeding glorious; thou art clothed with majesty and honour.  
    Thou deckest thyself with light as it were with a garment \*  
        and spreadest out the heavens like a curtain.

    Who layeth the beams of his chambers in the waters \*  
        and maketh the clouds his chariot, and walketh upon the wings of the wind.

    He maketh his angels spirits \*  
        and his ministers a flaming fire.

    He laid the foundations of the earth \*  
        that it never should move at any time.

    Thou coveredst it with the deep like as with a garment \*  
        the waters stand in the hills.

    At thy rebuke they flee \*  
        at the voice of thy thunder they are afraid.

    They go up as high as the hills, and down to the valleys beneath \*  
        even unto the place which thou hast appointed for them.

    Thou hast set them their bounds which they shall not pass \*  
        neither turn again to cover the earth.

    He sendeth the springs into the rivers \*  
        which run among the hills.

All beasts of the field drink thereof \*  
and the wild asses quench their thirst.  
Beside them shall the fowls of the air have their habitation \*  
and sing among the branches.  
He watereth the hills from above \*  
the earth is filled with the fruit of thy works.  
He bringeth forth grass for the cattle \*  
and green herb for the service of men;  
That he may bring food out of the earth, and wine that maketh glad the heart of man \*  
and oil to make him a cheerful countenance, and bread to strengthen man's heart.  
The trees of the Lord also are full of sap \*  
even the cedars of Libanus which he hath planted;  
Wherein the birds make their nests \*  
and the fir-trees are a dwelling for the stork.  
The high hills are a refuge for the wild goats \*  
and so are the stony rocks for the conies.  
He appointed the moon for certain seasons \*  
and the sun knoweth his going down.  
Thou makest darkness that it may be night \*  
wherein all the beasts of the forest do move.  
The lions roaring after their prey \*  
do seek their meat from God.  
The sun ariseth, and they get them away together \*  
and lay them down in their dens.  
Man goeth forth to his work, and to his labour \*  
until the evening.  
O Lord, how manifold are thy works \*  
in wisdom hast thou made them all; the earth is full of thy riches.  
So is the great and wide sea also \*  
wherein are things creeping innumerable, both small and great beasts.  
There go the ships, and there is that Leviathan \*  
whom thou hast made to take his pastime therein.  
These wait all upon thee \*  
that thou mayest give them meat in due season.  
When thou givest it them they gather it \*  
and when thou openest thy hand they are filled with good.  
When thou hidest thy face they are troubled \*  
when thou takest away their breath they die, and are turned again to their dust.  
When thou lettest thy breath go forth they shall be made \*  
and thou shalt renew the face of the earth.  
The glorious Majesty of the Lord shall endure for ever \*  
the Lord shall rejoice in his works.  
The earth shall tremble at the look of him \*  
if he do but touch the hills, they shall smoke.  
I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live \*  
I will praise my God while I have my being.  
And so shall my words please him \*  
my joy shall be in the Lord.

As for sinners, they shall be consumed out of the earth, and the ungodly shall come to an end \*  
praise thou the Lord, O my soul, praise the Lord.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## The Lessons

### The First Lesson

**Isa. 9:8-17**

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

The Lord has sent a word against Jacob, and it will light upon Israel; and all the people will know, Ephraim and the inhabitants of Samaria, who say in pride and in arrogance of heart: “The bricks have fallen, but we will build with dressed stones; the sycamores have been cut down, but we will put cedars in their place.” So the Lord raises adversaries against them, and stirs up their enemies. The Syrians on the east and the Philistines on the west devour Israel with open mouth. For all this his anger is not turned away and his hand is stretched out still.

The people did not turn to him who smote them, nor seek the Lord of hosts. So the Lord cut off from Israel head and tail, palm branch and reed in one day—the elder and honored man is the head, and the prophet who teaches lies is the tail; for those who lead this people lead them astray, and those who are led by them are swallowed up. Therefore the Lord does not rejoice over their young men, and has no compassion on their fatherless and widows; for every one is godless and an evildoer, and every mouth speaks folly. For all this his anger is not turned away and his hand is stretched out still.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**O DAYSPRING, Brightness of Light Everlasting, and Sun of Righteousness: Come and enlighten them that sit in darkness and the shadow of death.**

### The Song of Mary

*Luke 1:46-55*

My soul doth magnify the Lord, \*  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.  
For he hath regarded \*  
the lowliness of his handmaiden.  
For behold from henceforth \*  
all generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, \*  
and holy is his Name.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him \*  
throughout all generations.

He hath showed strength with his arm; \*  
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, \*  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.  
He hath filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.  
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, \*  
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## **O DAYSPRING, Brightness of Light Everlasting, and Sun of Righteousness: Come and enlighten them that sit in darkness and the shadow of death.**

### **The Second Lesson**

**Revelation 4:1-8**

A Reading from the Book of Revelation.

After this I looked, and lo, in heaven an open door! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, “Come up hither, and I will show you what must take place after this.” At once I was in the Spirit, and lo, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne! And he who sat there appeared like jasper and carnelian, and round the throne was a rainbow that looked like an emerald. Round the throne were twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones were twenty-four elders, clad in white garments, with golden crowns upon their heads. From the throne issue flashes of lightning, and voices and peals of thunder, and before the throne burn seven torches of fire, which are the seven spirits of God; and before the throne there is as it were a sea of glass, like crystal.

And round the throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with the face of a man, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle. And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all round and within, and day and night they never cease to sing,

“Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **The Song of Simeon**

**Luke 2:29-32**

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, \*  
according to thy word;  
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, \*  
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, \*  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

### The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

### The Prayers

*Officiant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*          And with thy spirit.  
*Officiant*      Let us pray.

### The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
    hallowed be thy Name,  
    thy kingdom come,  
    thy will be done,  
    on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
    as we forgive those  
    who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
    but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
    and the power, and the glory,  
    for ever and ever. Amen.

## Suffrages

V. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;  
R. **And grant us thy salvation.**  
V. Endue thy ministers with righteousness;  
R. **And make thy chosen people joyful.**  
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
R. **For only in thee can we live in safety.**  
V. Lord, keep this nation under thy care;  
R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**  
V. Let thy way be known upon earth;  
R. **Thy saving health among all nations.**  
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**  
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
R. **And sustain us with thy Holy Spirit.**

## The Collect of the Day

Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

Almighty God, the giver of all good gifts, who of thy divine providence hast appointed various orders in thy Church: Give thy grace, we humbly beseech thee, to all who are [now] called to any office and ministry for thy people; and so fill them with the truth of thy doctrine and clothe them with holiness of life, that they may faithfully serve before thee, to the glory of thy great Name and for the benefit of thy holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## A Collect for Peace

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of all enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

## A Collect for Aid against Perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## The General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we thine unworthy servants  
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks  
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all men.  
We bless thee for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for thine inestimable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we beseech thee,  
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,  
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;  
and that we show forth thy praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to thy service,  
and by walking before thee  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,  
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

## A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee; and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Ephesians 3:20,21*



# O Rex gentium

Evening Prayer  
December 21, 2023  
St. Thomas the Apostle

*Officiant*      O God, make speed to save us.  
*People*        **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.  
Alleluia.

## O Gracious Light

**O gracious Light, pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven, O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!**

**Now as we come to the setting of the sun, and our eyes behold the vesper light, we sing thy praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

**Thou art worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices, O Son of God, O Giver of life, and to be glorified through all the worlds.**

## Psalm 106: Part I

O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is gracious \*  
and his mercy endureth for ever.

Who can express the noble acts of the Lord \*  
or shew forth all his praise?

Blessed are they that alway keep judgement \*  
and do righteousness.

Remember me, O Lord, according to the favour that thou bearest unto thy people \*  
O visit me with thy salvation;

That I may see the felicity of thy chosen \*  
and rejoice in the gladness of thy people, and give thanks with thine inheritance.  
We have sinned with our fathers \*

we have done amiss, and dealt wickedly.

Our fathers regarded not thy wonders in Egypt, neither kept they thy great goodness in  
remembrance \*

but were disobedient at the sea, even at the Red sea.

Nevertheless, he helped them for his Name's sake \*  
that he might make his power to be known.

He rebuked the Red sea also, and it was dried up \*  
so he led them through the deep, as through a wilderness.  
And he saved them from the adversary's hand \*

and delivered them from the hand of the enemy.

As for those that troubled them, the waters overwhelmed them \*  
there was not one of them left.  
Then believed they his words \*  
and sang praise unto him.  
But within a while they forgat his works \*  
and would not abide his counsel.  
But lust came upon them in the wilderness \*  
and they tempted God in the desert.  
And he gave them their desire \*  
and sent leanness withal into their soul.  
They angered Moses also in the tents \*  
and Aaron the saint of the Lord.  
So the earth opened, and swallowed up Dathan \*  
and covered the congregation of Abiram.  
And the fire was kindled in their company \*  
the flame burnt up the ungodly.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

### **Psalm 106: Part II**

They made a calf in Horeb \*  
and worshipped the molten image.  
Thus they turned their glory \*  
into the similitude of a calf that eateth hay.  
And they forgat God their Saviour \*  
who had done so great things in Egypt;  
Wondrous works in the land of Ham \*  
and fearful things by the Red sea.  
So he said, he would have destroyed them, had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the gap \*  
to turn away his wrathful indignation, lest he should destroy them.  
Yea, they thought scorn of that pleasant land \*  
and gave no credence unto his word;  
But murmured in their tents \*  
and hearkened not unto the voice of the Lord.  
Then lift he up his hand against them \*  
to overthrow them in the wilderness;  
To cast out their seed among the nations \*  
and to scatter them in the lands.  
They joined themselves unto Baalpeor \*  
and ate the offerings of the dead.  
Thus they provoked him to anger with their own inventions \*  
and the plague was great among them.  
Then stood up Phinees and prayed \*  
and so the plague ceased.  
And that was counted unto him for righteousness \*  
among all posterities for evermore.

They angered him also at the waters of strife \*  
so that he punished Moses for their sakes;  
Because they provoked his spirit \*  
so that he spake unadvisedly with his lips.  
Neither destroyed they the heathen \*  
as the Lord commanded them;  
But were mingled among the heathen \*  
and learned their works.  
Insomuch that they worshipped their idols, which turned to their own decay \*  
yea, they offered their sons and their daughters unto devils;  
And shed innocent blood, even the blood of their sons and of their daughters \*  
whom they offered unto the idols of Canaan; and the land was defiled with blood.  
Thus were they stained with their own works \*  
and went a whoring with their own inventions.  
Therefore was the wrath of the Lord kindled against his people \*  
insomuch that he abhorred his own inheritance.  
And he gave them over into the hand of the heathen \*  
and they that hated them were lords over them.  
Their enemies oppressed them \*  
and had them in subjection.  
Many a time did he deliver them \*  
but they rebelled against him with their own inventions, and were brought down in their  
wickedness.  
Nevertheless, when he saw their adversity \*  
he heard their complaint.  
He thought upon his covenant, and pitied them, according unto the multitude of his mercies \*  
yea, he made all those that led them away captive to pity them.  
Deliver us, O Lord our God, and gather us from among the heathen \*  
that we may give thanks unto thy holy Name, and make our boast of thy praise.  
Blessed be the Lord God of Israel from everlasting, and world without end \*  
and let all the people say, Amen.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## The Lessons

### The First Lesson

Isa. 43:8-13

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

Bring forth the people who are blind, yet have eyes, who are deaf, yet have ears! Let all the nations gather together, and let the peoples assemble. Who among them can declare this, and show us the former things? Let them bring their witnesses to justify them, and let them hear and say, It is true. "You are my witnesses," says the Lord, "and my servant whom I have chosen, that you may know and believe me and understand that I am He. Before me no god was formed, nor shall there be any after me. I, I am the Lord, and besides me there is no savior. I declared and saved and proclaimed, when there was no strange god among you; and you are my witnesses," says the Lord. "I am God,

and also henceforth I am He; there is none who can deliver from my hand; I work and who can hinder it?"

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**O KING of the Nations, and their Desire; the Cornerstone  
who makest both one: Come and save mankind, whom thou  
formedst out of clay.**

**The Song of Mary**

*Luke 1:46-55*

My soul doth magnify the Lord, \*  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.  
For he hath regarded \*  
the lowliness of his handmaiden.  
For behold from henceforth \*  
all generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, \*  
and holy is his Name.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him \*  
throughout all generations.  
He hath showed strength with his arm; \*  
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, \*  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.  
He hath filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.  
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, \*  
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**O KING of the Nations, and their Desire; the Cornerstone  
who makest both one: Come and save mankind, whom thou  
formedst out of clay.**

**The Second Lesson**

**John 14:1-7**

A Reading from the Gospel According to John.

“Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And when I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also; henceforth you know him and have seen him.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **The Song of Simeon**

*Luke 2:29-32*

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, \*  
according to thy word;  
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, \*  
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, \*  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

### **The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;  
    who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
    born of the Virgin Mary,  
    suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
    was crucified, dead, and buried.  
    He descended into hell.  
    The third day he rose again from the dead.  
    He ascended into heaven,  
    and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
    From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## The Prayers

*Officiant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*            **And with thy spirit.**  
*Officiant*        Let us pray.

## The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,**  
    **hallowed be thy Name,**  
    **thy kingdom come,**  
    **thy will be done,**  
    **on earth as it is in heaven.**  
**Give us this day our daily bread.**  
**And forgive us our trespasses,**  
    **as we forgive those**  
        **who trespass against us.**  
**And lead us not into temptation,**  
    **but deliver us from evil.**  
**For thine is the kingdom,**  
    **and the power, and the glory,**  
        **for ever and ever. Amen.**

## Suffrages

*V.*      O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;  
*R.*           **And grant us thy salvation.**  
*V.*      Endue thy ministers with righteousness;  
*R.*           **And make thy chosen people joyful.**  
*V.*      Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
*R.*           **For only in thee can we live in safety.**  
*V.*      Lord, keep this nation under thy care;  
*R.*           **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**  
*V.*      Let thy way be known upon earth;  
*R.*           **Thy saving health among all nations.**  
*V.*      Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
*R.*           **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**  
*V.*      Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
*R.*           **And sustain us with thy Holy Spirit.**

## St. Thomas the Apostle

Everliving God, who didst strengthen thine apostle Thomas with firm and certain faith in thy Son's resurrection: Grant us so perfectly and without doubt to believe in Jesus Christ, our Lord and our God, that our faith may never be found wanting in thy sight; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## A Collect for Protection

O God, who art the life of all who live, the light of the faithful, the strength of those who labor, and the repose of the dead: We thank thee for the timely blessings of the day, and humbly beseech thy merciful protection all the night. Bring us, we pray thee, in safety to the morning hours; through him who died for us and rose again, thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### **A Prayer for Mission**

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give thine angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for thy love's sake. **Amen.**

### **The General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we thine unworthy servants  
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks  
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all men.  
We bless thee for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for thine inestimable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we beseech thee,  
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,  
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;  
and that we show forth thy praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to thy service,  
and by walking before thee  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,  
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

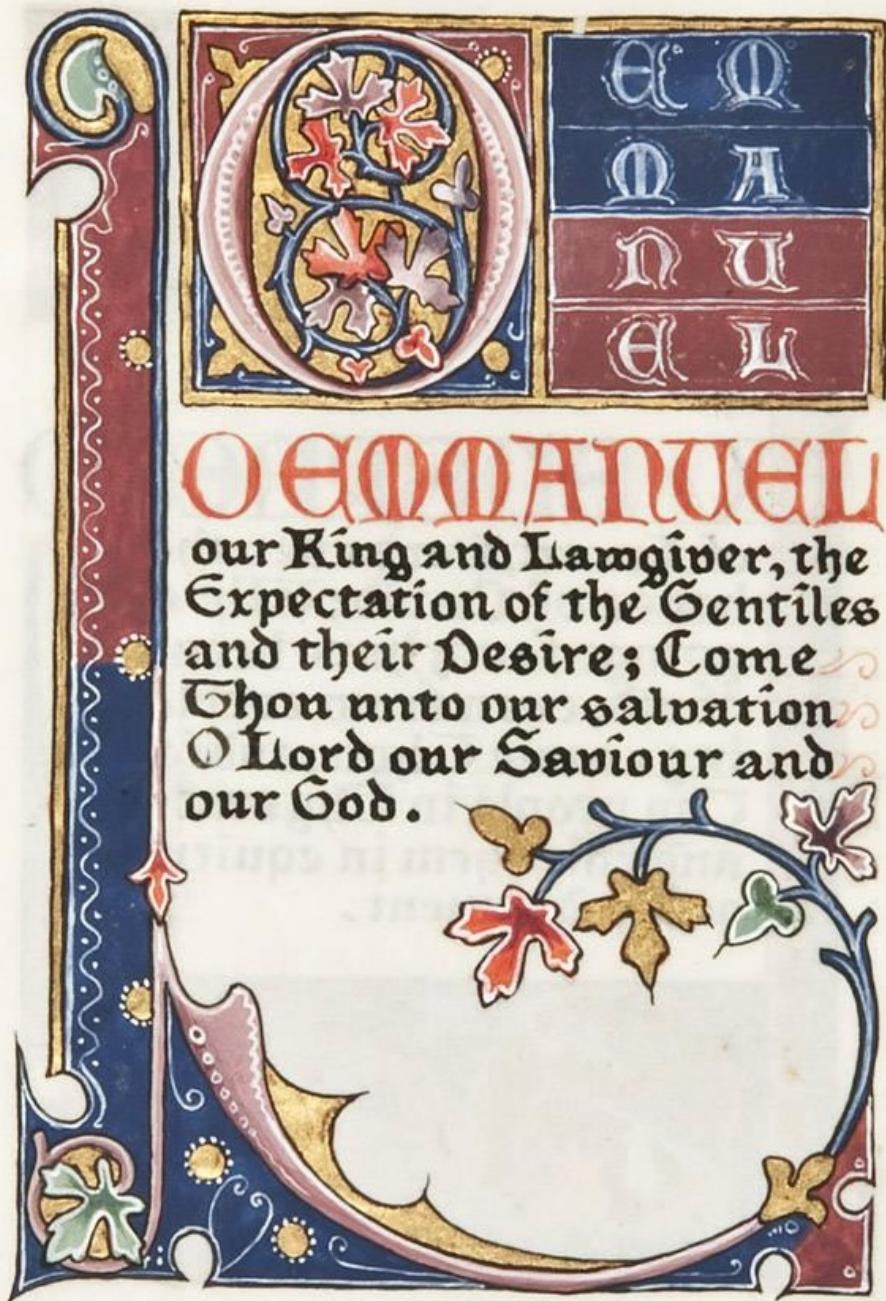
Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee; and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

*Romans 15:13*



# O Emmanuel

**Evening Prayer**  
**December 22, 2023**  
**Friday after the Third Sunday of Advent**  
*Ember Day*

*Officiant*      O God, make speed to save us.  
*People*        **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.  
Alleluia.

## **O Gracious Light**

**O gracious Light, pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven, O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!**

**Now as we come to the setting of the sun, and our eyes behold the vesper light, we sing thy praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

**Thou art worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices, O Son of God, O Giver of life, and to be glorified through all the worlds.**

## **Psalm 108**

O God, my heart is ready, my heart is ready \*

I will sing and give praise with the best member that I have.

Awake, thou lute, and harp \*

I myself will awake right early.

I will give thanks unto thee, O Lord, among the people \*

I will sing praises unto thee among the nations.

For thy mercy is greater than the heavens \*

and thy truth reacheth unto the clouds.

Set up thyself, O God, above the heavens \*

and thy glory above all the earth.

That thy beloved may be delivered \*

let thy right hand save them, and hear thou me.

God hath spoken in his holiness \*

I will rejoice therefore, and divide Sichem, and mete out the valley of Succoth.

Gilead is mine, and Manasses is mine \*

Ephraim also is the strength of my head.

Judah is my law-giver, Moab is my wash-pot \*

over Edom will I cast out my shoe; upon Philistia will I triumph.

Who will lead me into the strong city \*  
and who will bring me into Edom?  
Hast not thou forsaken us, O God \*  
and wilt not thou, O God, go forth with our hosts?  
O help us against the enemy \*  
for vain is the help of man.  
Through God we shall do great acts \*  
and it is he that shall tread down our enemies.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

### **Psalm 109**

Hold not thy tongue, O God of my praise \*  
for the mouth of the ungodly, yea, the mouth of the deceitful is opened upon me.  
And they have spoken against me with false tongues \*  
they compassed me about also with words of hatred, and fought against me without a cause.  
For the love that I had unto them, lo, they take now my contrary part \*  
but I give myself unto prayer.  
Thus have they rewarded me evil for good \*  
and hatred for my good will.  
Set thou an ungodly man to be ruler over him \*  
and let Satan stand at his right hand.  
When sentence is given upon him, let him be condemned \*  
and let his prayer be turned into sin.  
Let his days be few \*  
and let another take his office.  
Let his children be fatherless \*  
and his wife a widow.  
Let his children be vagabonds, and beg their bread \*  
let them seek it also out of desolate places.  
Let the extortioner consume all that he hath \*  
and let the stranger spoil his labour.  
Let there be no man to pity him \*  
nor to have compassion upon his fatherless children.  
Let his posterity be destroyed \*  
and in the next generation let his name be clean put out.  
Let the wickedness of his fathers be had in remembrance in the sight of the Lord \*  
and let not the sin of his mother be done away.  
Let them alway be before the Lord \*  
that he may root out the memorial of them from off the earth;  
And that, because his mind was not to do good \*  
but persecuted the poor helpless man, that he might slay him that was vexed at the heart.  
His delight was in cursing, and it shall happen unto him \*  
he loved not blessing, therefore shall it be far from him.  
He clothed himself with cursing, like as with a raiment \*  
and it shall come into his bowels like water, and like oil into his bones.

Let it be unto him as the cloke that he hath upon him \*  
and as the girdle that he is alway girded withal.  
Let it thus happen from the Lord unto mine enemies \*  
and to those that speak evil against my soul.  
But deal thou with me, O Lord God, according unto thy Name \*  
for sweet is thy mercy.  
O deliver me, for I am helpless and poor \*  
and my heart is wounded within me.  
I go hence like the shadow that departeth \*  
and am driven away as the grasshopper.  
My knees are weak through fasting \*  
my flesh is dried up for want of fatness.  
I became also a reproach unto them \*  
they that looked upon me shaked their heads.  
Help me, O Lord my God \*  
O save me according to thy mercy;  
And they shall know, how that this is thy hand \*  
and that thou, Lord, hast done it.  
Though they curse, yet bless thou \*  
and let them be confounded that rise up against me; but let thy servant rejoice.  
Let mine adversaries be clothed with shame \*  
and let them cover themselves with their own confusion, as with a cloke.  
As for me, I will give great thanks unto the Lord with my mouth \*  
and praise him among the multitude;  
For he shall stand at the right hand of the poor \*  
to save his soul from unrighteous judges.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## The Lessons

### The First Lesson

**Isa. 10:5-19**

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

Ah, Assyria, the rod of my anger, the staff of my fury! Against a godless nation I send him, and against the people of my wrath I command him, to take spoil and seize plunder, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets. But he does not so intend, and his mind does not so think; but it is in his mind to destroy, and to cut off nations not a few; for he says: "Are not my commanders all kings? Is not Calno like Carchemish? Is not Hamath like Arpad? Is not Samaria like Damascus? As my hand has reached to the kingdoms of the idols whose graven images were greater than those of Jerusalem and Samaria, shall I not do to Jerusalem and her idols as I have done to Samaria and her images?"

When the Lord has finished all his work on Mount Zion and on Jerusalem he will punish the arrogant boasting of the king of Assyria and his haughty pride. For he says:

"By the strength of my hand I have done it, and by my wisdom, for I have understanding; I have removed the boundaries of peoples, and have plundered their treasures; like a bull I have

brought down those who sat on thrones. My hand has found like a nest the wealth of the peoples; and as men gather eggs that have been forsaken so I have gathered all the earth; and there was none that moved a wing, or opened the mouth, or chirped."

Shall the axe vaunt itself over him who hews with it, or the saw magnify itself against him who wields it? As if a rod should wield him who lifts it, or as if a staff should lift him who is not wood! Therefore the Lord, the Lord of hosts, will send wasting sickness among his stout warriors, and under his glory a burning will be kindled, like the burning of fire. The light of Israel will become a fire, and his Holy One a flame; and it will burn and devour his thorns and briers in one day. The glory of his forest and of his fruitful land the Lord will destroy, both soul and body, and it will be as when a sick man wastes away. The remnant of the trees of his forest will be so few that a child can write them down.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **O EMMANUEL, our King and Lawgiver, the Desire of all nations and their Salvation: Come and save us, O Lord our God.**

**The Song of Mary**

*Luke 1:46-55*

My soul doth magnify the Lord,\*  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.  
For he hath regarded\*  
the lowliness of his handmaiden.  
For behold from henceforth\*  
all generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is mighty hath magnified me,\*  
and holy is his Name.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him\*  
throughout all generations.  
He hath showed strength with his arm;\*  
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He hath put down the mighty from their seat,\*  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.  
He hath filled the hungry with good things,\*  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.  
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel,\*  
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

# **O EMMANUEL, our King and Lawgiver, the Desire of all nations and their Salvation: Come and save us, O Lord our God.**

## **The Second Lesson**

**Revelation 5:6-14**

A Reading from the Book of Revelation.

And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders, I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth; and he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and with golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints; and they sang a new song, saying,

“Worthy art thou to take the scroll and to open its seals, for thou wast slain and by thy blood didst ransom men for God from every tribe and tongue and people and nation, and hast made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on earth.”

Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice, “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!” And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all therein, saying, “To him who sits upon the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might for ever and ever!” And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” and the elders fell down and worshiped.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **The Song of Simeon**

*Luke 2:29-32*

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, \*  
according to thy word;  
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, \*  
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, \*  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,

born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

### The Prayers

*Officiant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*            **And with thy spirit.**  
*Officiant*        Let us pray.

### The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
    hallowed be thy Name,  
    thy kingdom come,  
    thy will be done,  
    on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
    as we forgive those  
    who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
    but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
    and the power, and the glory,  
    for ever and ever. Amen.

### Suffrages

*V.*      O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;  
*R.*           **And grant us thy salvation.**  
*V.*      Endue thy ministers with righteousness;  
*R.*           **And make thy chosen people joyful.**  
*V.*      Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
*R.*           **For only in thee can we live in safety.**  
*V.*      Lord, keep this nation under thy care;  
*R.*           **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

*V.* Let thy way be known upon earth;  
*R.* **Thy saving health among all nations.**  
*V.* Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
*R.* **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**  
*V.* Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
*R.* **And sustain us with thy Holy Spirit.**

### The Collect of the Day

Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

Almighty God, the giver of all good gifts, who of thy divine providence hast appointed various orders in thy Church: Give thy grace, we humbly beseech thee, to all who are [now] called to any office and ministry for thy people; and so fill them with the truth of thy doctrine and clothe them with holiness of life, that they may faithfully serve before thee, to the glory of thy great Name and for the benefit of thy holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### A Collect for Peace

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of all enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

### A Collect for Aid against Perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### The General Thanksgiving

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we thine unworthy servants  
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks  
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all men.  
We bless thee for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for thine inestimable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we beseech thee,  
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,**

that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;  
and that we show forth thy praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to thy service,  
and by walking before thee  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,  
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

#### A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee; and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

*2 Corinthians 13:14*



# O Virgo virginum

Evening Prayer  
December 23, 2023  
**Saturday after the Third Sunday of Advent**  
*Ember Day*

*Officiant*      O God, make speed to save us.  
*People*        **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.  
Alleluia.

## **O Gracious Light**

**O gracious Light, pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven, O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!**

**Now as we come to the setting of the sun, and our eyes behold the vesper light, we sing thy praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

**Thou art worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices, O Son of God, O Giver of life, and to be glorified through all the worlds.**

## **Psalm 114**

When Israel came out of Egypt \*  
and the house of Jacob from among the strange people,  
Judah was his sanctuary \*  
and Israel his dominion.  
The sea saw that, and fled \*  
Jordan was driven back.  
The mountains skipped like rams \*  
and the little hills like young sheep.  
What aileth thee, O thou sea, that thou fleddest \*  
and thou Jordan, that thou wast driven back?  
Ye mountains, that ye skipped like rams \*  
and ye little hills, like young sheep?  
Tremble, thou earth, at the presence of the Lord \*  
at the presence of the God of Jacob;  
Who turned the hard rock into a standing water \*  
and the flint-stone into a springing well.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## **Psalm 115**

Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto thy Name give the praise \*  
for thy loving mercy, and for thy truth's sake.  
Wherefore shall the heathen say \*  
    Where is now their God?  
As for our God, he is in heaven \*  
    he hath done whatsoever pleased him.  
Their idols are silver and gold \*  
    even the work of men's hands.  
They have mouths, and speak not \*  
    eyes have they, and see not.  
They have ears, and hear not \*  
    noses have they, and smell not.  
They have hands, and handle not; feet have they, and walk not \*  
    neither speak they through their throat.  
They that make them are like unto them \*  
    and so are all such as put their trust in them.  
But thou, house of Israel, trust thou in the Lord \*  
    he is their succour and defence.  
Ye house of Aaron, put your trust in the Lord \*  
    he is their helper and defender.  
Ye that fear the Lord, put your trust in the Lord \*  
    he is their helper and defender.  
The Lord hath been mindful of us, and he shall bless us \*  
    even he shall bless the house of Israel, he shall bless the house of Aaron.  
He shall bless them that fear the Lord \*  
    both small and great.  
The Lord shall increase you more and more \*  
    you and your children.  
Ye are the blessed of the Lord \*  
    who made heaven and earth.  
All the whole heavens are the Lord's \*  
    the earth hath he given to the children of men.  
The dead praise not thee, O Lord \*  
    neither all they that go down into silence.  
But we will praise the Lord \*  
    from this time forth for evermore. Praise the Lord.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## **The Lessons**

### **The First Lesson**

**Isa. 10:20-27**

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

In that day the remnant of Israel and the survivors of the house of Jacob will no more lean upon him that smote them, but will lean upon the Lord, the Holy One of Israel, in truth. A remnant will return, the remnant of Jacob, to the mighty God. For though your people Israel be as the sand of the sea, only a remnant of them will return. Destruction is decreed, overflowing with righteousness. For the Lord, the Lord of hosts, will make a full end, as decreed, in the midst of all the earth.

Therefore thus says the Lord, the Lord of hosts: "O my people, who dwell in Zion, be not afraid of the Assyrians when they smite with the rod and lift up their staff against you as the Egyptians did. For in a very little while my indignation will come to an end, and my anger will be directed to their destruction. And the Lord of hosts will wield against them a scourge, as when he smote Midian at the rock of Oreb; and his rod will be over the sea, and he will lift it as he did in Egypt. And in that day his burden will depart from your shoulder, and his yoke will be destroyed from your neck."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**O VIRGIN of virgins, how shall this be? for neither before thee was any seen like thee, nor shall there be after.  
Daughters of Jerusalem, why marvel ye at me? the thing which ye behold is a divine mystery.**

**The Song of Mary**

*Luke 1:46-55*

My soul doth magnify the Lord, \*  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.  
For he hath regarded \*  
the lowliness of his handmaiden.  
For behold from henceforth \*  
all generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, \*  
and holy is his Name.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him \*  
throughout all generations.  
He hath showed strength with his arm; \*  
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, \*  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.  
He hath filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.  
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, \*  
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**O VIRGIN of virgins, how shall this be? for neither before thee was any seen like thee, nor shall there be after.**

**Daughters of Jerusalem, why marvel ye at me? the thing which ye behold is a divine mystery.**

**The Second Lesson**

**Revelation 6:1-17**

A Reading from the Book of Revelation.

Now I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures say, as with a voice of thunder, “Come!” And I saw, and behold, a white horse, and its rider had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer.

When he opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature say, “Come!” And out came another horse, bright red; its rider was permitted to take peace from the earth, so that men should slay one another; and he was given a great sword.

When he opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, “Come!” And I saw, and behold, a black horse, and its rider had a balance in his hand; and I heard what seemed to be a voice in the midst of the four living creatures saying, “A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; but do not harm oil and wine!”

When he opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature say, “Come!” And I saw, and behold, a pale horse, and its rider’s name was Death, and Hades followed him; and they were given power over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by wild beasts of the earth.

When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the witness they had borne; they cried out with a loud voice, “O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before thou wilt judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell upon the earth?” Then they were each given a white robe and told to rest a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brethren should be complete, who were to be killed as they themselves had been.

When he opened the sixth seal, I looked, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth, the full moon became like blood, and the stars of the sky fell to the earth as the fig tree sheds its winter fruit when shaken by a gale; the sky vanished like a scroll that is rolled up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place. Then the kings of the earth and the great men and the generals and the rich and the strong, and every one, slave and free, hid in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains, calling to the mountains and rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who is seated on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb; for the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand before it?”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**The Song of Simeon**

**Luke 2:29-32**

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, \*  
according to thy word;

For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, \*  
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, \*  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

### The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;  
    who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
    born of the Virgin Mary,  
    suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
    was crucified, dead, and buried.  
    He descended into hell.  
    The third day he rose again from the dead.  
    He ascended into heaven,  
    and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
    From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost,  
    the holy catholic Church,  
    the communion of saints,  
    the forgiveness of sins,  
    the resurrection of the body,  
    and the life everlasting. Amen.

### The Prayers

*Officiant*            The Lord be with you.  
*People*              **And with thy spirit.**  
*Officiant*            Let us pray.

### The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
    hallowed be thy Name,  
    thy kingdom come,  
    thy will be done,  
    on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
    as we forgive those  
    who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
    but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

### Suffrages

V. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;  
R. **And grant us thy salvation.**  
V. Endue thy ministers with righteousness;  
R. **And make thy chosen people joyful.**  
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
R. **For only in thee can we live in safety.**  
V. Lord, keep this nation under thy care;  
R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**  
V. Let thy way be known upon earth;  
R. **Thy saving health among all nations.**  
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**  
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
R. **And sustain us with thy Holy Spirit.**

### The Collect of the Day

Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end.  
**Amen.**

Almighty God, the giver of all good gifts, who of thy divine providence hast appointed various orders in thy Church: Give thy grace, we humbly beseech thee, to all who are [now] called to any office and ministry for thy people; and so fill them with the truth of thy doctrine and clothe them with holiness of life, that they may faithfully serve before thee, to the glory of thy great Name and for the benefit of thy holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### A Collect for Peace

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of all enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

### A Collect for Aid against Perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## The General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we thine unworthy servants  
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks  
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all men.  
We bless thee for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for thine inestimable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we beseech thee,  
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,  
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;  
and that we show forth thy praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to thy service,  
and by walking before thee  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,  
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

## A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee; and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Ephesians 3:20,21*